

Application No. 09/607,839
Amendment "A" dated January 6, 2004
Reply to Office Action mailed October 6, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 22 of page 14, as reflected in the following marked-up version of the paragraph:

A

In one embodiment, decision engine 148 is one that has been disclosed in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [] 09/607,444 entitled "Selecting Attribute Based Content for Server Applications," which was filed on the same day as the present application and is incorporated by reference. As describe in the foregoing patent application, decision engine 148 selects appropriate content from content files 150 without receiving information specifying the decision criteria from server application 144. In other words, the decision criteria are abstracted from server application 144 and script 146 and are encapsulated in decision engine 148. In order to request a decision identifying the appropriate content, server application 144 merely requests decision engine 148 to identify the appropriate content without informing the decision engine of any decision criteria that are to be used to make the decision.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 22 of page 15, as reflected in the following marked-up version of the paragraph:

A²

As shown on Figure 3, decision engine 148 can identify values of attributes or properties associated with clients 100 by referring to attribute providers 152, which are any software module, database, or other source of information specifying the values of such attributes or properties. In this manner the developers or site administrators writing scripts 146 do not need to be concerned with identifying the values of the attributes associated with client 100 or with providing these values to decision engine 148. Further details regarding decision engine 148, content files 150, and attribute providers 1525 according to one embodiment of the invention are disclosed in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [] 09/607,444 entitled "Selecting Attribute Based Content for Server Applications," which has been incorporated herein by reference.

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Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 8 of page 17, as reflected in the following marked-up version of the paragraph:

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X

The portion of Figure 4 above dotted line 160 represents the portion of script originally contained in the script processed by the server application. For instance, request 162 and ~~content~~ 163 and content 164 are originally encoded in script 146 of Figure 3. In this example, the server application, when identifying which content files are to be resolved, encounters requests 162 and 163, which are requests to the decision engine to identify, or resolve, an appropriate version of specified content for the document being created. The types of content that can be requested by a server application according to the invention can be any aspect of a document that can be customized for a particular user. For example, the content can be text, images, executable code embedded in a document, formatting of a displayable size of the document, formatting of displayed portions of the document, other formatting, and the like.